

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

**Contact:** Charlotte Andrist @ 954-446-6554 or [Charlotte@EicherCommunications.com](mailto:Charlotte@EicherCommunications.com)  
Gail Fleur @ 845-353-7013 or [gflour@nyackschools.com](mailto:gflour@nyackschools.com)

## **NEW YORK SCHOOL DISTRICT SELECTS PEARSON INFORM/SASI SOLUTION**

*Efficient Web-based System Will Drive Decisions for Enhanced  
Teaching and Learning for Nyack Public Schools*

Mesa, Ariz. – April 7, 2005 – In a move to reflect its commitment to high standards of educational excellence, Nyack Public Schools has purchased a sophisticated data analysis and student information system that will help administrators and teachers analyze assessment and performance data, guide instructional decisions, and help increase student outcomes.

The purchase includes Pearson Inform, a comprehensive, Web-based data analysis and decision support tool; and SASI, the most widely used student information system in K-12 education, both from Pearson School Systems, based in Mesa, AZ.

According to Ahunna Margaux Akoma, the director of technology for Nyack Public Schools, this sophisticated, comprehensive solution will provide Nyack educators with a cutting-edge, Web-based system that will not only interpret the vast assessment and performance data gathered but help design the suitable solution to meet the yearly demands of district, state and federal educational proficiency goals.

“In our district, it’s all about informed instruction and improving learning,” said Akoma. “With Pearson Inform we can quickly identify achievement gaps and student performance issues and trends in specific categories in a timely fashion. Having the ability to gather demographic information, analyze student assessment and proficiency data from multiple sources gives us the edge to deliver accurate instruction and help our students’ mastery levels increase.”

As the core of a district's data-driven decision making strategy, Pearson Inform enables key members of the district -- superintendents, district curriculum directors, principals and teachers -- to

readily access and analyze district, school and student performance information to help objectively identify programs and practices that provide the most significant impact.

Used by more than 16,000 schools nationwide, the SASI student information system will give Nyack administrators and educators immediate, secure access to student demographics, attendance, discipline, grades, schedules, health data, immunization history, emergency contacts, parent/guardian information, and state test data.

Using data from SASI -- as well other sources such as assessment systems data warehouses -- Pearson Inform can capture, share and report on a variety of student and assessment information, including student demographics, state tests, standardized tests, district tests, and more. It allows districts and schools to view performance data at the district, school, classroom, and individual levels against target benchmarks, such as AYP goals. In addition, it enables districts and schools to perform comparative and longitudinal analysis based on aggregate and disaggregate performance data driven by the No Child Left Behind and state requirements.

"Educators in Nyack now have an incredible system in place to unleash the knowledge buried within their data. Administrators can immediately collect, analyze, and report it. Principals can use that data to formulate action plans for improvement. Teachers will have clear, easy-to access information to address individual student needs," said Mike Evans, president of Pearson School Systems. "Everyone will benefit from the SASI/Pearson Inform solution – especially the students."

### **About Nyack Public School District**

Located in Rockland County, NY and just 20 miles from mid-Manhattan, the suburban Nyack Public School District serves approximately 2,900 students in kindergarten through twelfth grade. The district's student population, divided among three elementary schools, one middle school and one high school, is 55 percent Caucasian, 26 percent African-American, 10 percent Hispanic and 8 percent Asian/American Indian.

Nyack's thrust is for each student to excel in his or her own special way. Through extensive educational, artistic, enrichment, and recreational opportunities each child is encouraged to become a well-rounded, enthusiastic learner. In all curriculum areas skills in critical thinking, communication

and computer applications are developed and interdisciplinary, hands-on learning is emphasized. Success for every child is emphasized through ongoing assessment of every student's progress, and programs to help every child improve.

Ongoing curriculum development and revision reflect Nyack's commitment to excellence, and alignment with New York State standards. In conjunction, effective teaching strategies are reinforced via ongoing staff training provided by both the District and Nyack's own faculty-run Teachers' Center.

### **About Pearson School Systems**

Pearson School Systems (PSS) is changing the face of K-12 student performance and information management through its offering of tightly-integrated, mission critical district enterprise solutions.

As both an industry pioneer and market trend setter, PSS offers management solutions that easily and significantly combine the power of student information, assessment, reporting, and business tools into a comprehensive and collaborative effort.

Through its innovative, digital solutions, PSS is dedicated to helping schools perform and students succeed. It's all-encompassing product lineup includes [SASI](#) the widely acclaimed, comprehensive student information system; [Pearson Centerpoint](#); the multi-platform, Web-based student information and performance management system; [CIMS®](#) the comprehensive finance, human resources, and student information system; [Pearson Inform](#), the achievement data analysis and decision support tool; [Pearson Benchmark](#), the customizable, Web-based district benchmark testing solution; and [Pearson PA Series](#) providing scientifically valid, formative assessments. Pearson School Systems is a business unit of [Pearson Education](#) (NYSE: PSO), the world's leading integrated education company. For more information please visit: [www.pearsonschoolsystems.com](http://www.pearsonschoolsystems.com)

# # #